



March 18, 2009

Dear SciDAC Program Reviewer,

This letter is to express strong support for the SciDAC Visualization and Analytics Center for Enabling Technologies. I am writing as the PI for the Interoperable Technologies for Advanced Petascale Simulations (ITAPS) center. Our center also supports VisIt development, as a vehicle to accomplish some of our own missions, and we appreciate the leverage we gain from VACET's VisIt development.

VACET has made investments in VisIt that benefit the entire VisIt community, including ITAPS. They have invested in VisIt's software engineering infrastructure. VisIt now is developed using a Subversion repository that anyone can access, whereas previously only Lawrence Livermore employees could contribute. They have stood up mailing lists for VisIt support which are archived and which are providing a greater sense of community. VACET has contributed significantly to the documentation of VisIt on the visitusers.org Wiki. Of course, they have also fixed many bugs. All of these changes make it easier for ITAPS to use VisIt and engage new users. In addition, specific tuning work done by VACET, of VisIt's subsetting mechanism ("subset inclusion lattices"), is important for our project and we benefit from this regularly.

To sum up, VACET's investment in VisIt provides momentum and leverage to a project that our center has a strong vested interest in. We appreciate their efforts and would encourage you to contact us if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Diachin".

Lori Diachin
ITAPS PI

